

"I heard it through the Grapevine "

The Software Center sends periodic informational messages which are intended to provide heads-up/real time information to Software Professionals throughout the Command. These "information messages" are not intended to by-pass or replace the formal communication process or to task any DCMD or CAO activity. Forwarding of this e-mail within the DCMC Software Professional community and to other interested DCMC employees is encouraged.

Your feedback is appreciated.

Software Center: 1-888-616-7598

1. Software Center Web Page: Lt Col Lang

The web page is under revision http://www.dcmc.hq.dla.mil/dcmc_o/ob/swctr/index.htm To date the "Worth Knowing" section has been revamped. The intent is to give you easy access (and ability to easily locate) desired information. Your comments would be appreciated - does this help? Are we missing the mark? What else would be helpful for you in the field? There is a comment and feedback form right on the web page. If you have a comment or suggestion, please take the time to share it. How about the Grapevine (all past versions listed under "Worth Knowing"). Is it helpful, is it useless? Are there other topics you would like addressed? I believe the Center is making massive strides to improve the way DCMC conducts Software CAS. Strides where we can greatly assist program offices. Initiatives such as CMM Based Insight or the Software Performance Maturity Model. Please be vocal - Communication is a two way street. Comments to date are overwhelmingly positive. Are we that good? Biggest area of concern is lack of information concerning progress of initiatives since the Sep 99 Symposium. See the initiatives section on the Web Page for the latest information

2. Capability Maturity Model Based Insight: Lead - Lisa Ming

CMM Based Insight is a fundamental change in the way we will be conducting process evaluations. Does this mean that what we have been doing is wrong? No, it means that we are taking advantage of tools and technologies that have been

developed to meet increased software complexity. Program offices speak the language of the Software CMM. Contractors speak the language of the CMM. We need to adjust and speak this common language. Our initiative, when fully implemented, will go a long way to addressing the continued DoD concern with consistency of process evaluations

http://www.dcmc.hq.dla.mil/dcmc_o/ob/swctr/files/DDREMemo.pdf So where are we today? We have been conducting pilot testing at four locations (DCMC Syracuse, Denver, Boston, and Delaware Valley). At the end of this month we should have enough data and information to outline the program and an implementation. Regardless, this is a fundamental change in the way we do business and will be incrementally phased in across CAOs with the necessary training provided.

3. Software Symposium: Lead - Gary Gumpright

The conference was originally targeted for the first week of June 2000. (Ref Grapevine 99-10) I have decided to reschedule this for later in the year. This is because of challenges arising in implementation of CMM Based Insight (CBI). CBI will be the focus of the conference and a June timeframe is now premature. As mentioned above in paragraph 2, CBI represents a fundamental change in the way we conduct process evaluations (one third of our mission per the Federal Acquisition Regulation). CBI implementation will affect SPECS, Metrics, Training, The Software Performance Model, and Guidance. We are researching alternative sites and should have a final selection for this year's location by the end of the month.

4. SPDP Course Offerings: Lead - Mark Keenan

With the command initiative to move to supply risk management, the software one book section is going through a realignment. Once complete the new requirements will be incorporated into the existing training courses. Due to the update, the SSF and SSA courses will be delayed until the change can be incorporated into the courses. The SSE course is still scheduled for March. Kathy Butera, SPDP Lead Agent, will be providing Training Coordinators with revised training schedule once the update is completed.

5. Software Performance Reviews: Lead - Gary Gumpright

Dec 99 Software Performance Reviews continued with

- DCMC Bell Helicopter, Texas
- DCMC Raytheon, Los Angeles
- DCMC Birmingham, AL
- DCMC Dallas, TX.
- DCMC San Diego

Eighteen reviews have now been conducted. Twenty-six remain. We are 41% complete and on track for completion in March. Results from the reviews have been overwhelmingly positive. Several CAOs have already begun action to improve their Software CAS processes. Review data will be analyzed and results briefed to HQ

DCMC (April 2000) to determine our DCMC corporate game plan for software CAS process improvement.

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